



*Presented*

## **In Recognition of Gum Disease Awareness Month**

**WHEREAS**, Gum Disease Awareness Month is being promoted during the month of February 2013 by the Institute for Advanced Laser Dentistry (IALD), a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness about the prevalence and dangers of gum disease as well as treatment options; and

**WHEREAS**, Gum Disease Awareness Month will provide opportunities for the IALD to educate the public about the prevention of gum disease, emphasizing the importance of taking an active role in preventing gum disease through the use of simple tools and making lifestyle changes; and

**WHEREAS**, Gum Disease Awareness Month raises awareness about the discovery that 74-85% of Americans suffers some degree of gum disease, but less than half are aware they are affected by the condition; during Gum Disease Awareness Month, IALD will provide information and resources to help improve the health of our community and provide resources to prevent serious health consequences resulting from gum disease, including heart disease, stroke, cancer, and stillbirths; and

**WHEREAS**, Gum Disease Awareness Month supports community health by disseminating important information and the tips and tools to empower citizens to make positive choices to combat gum disease and improve their health and the health of their families; and

**WHEREAS**, Gum Disease Awareness Month is being recognized during the month of February in conjunction with the designation of February as "National Children's Dental Health Month" by the American Dental Association;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim February, 2013, as**

## **"GUM DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH"**

in Hawai'i and encourage citizens of the Aloha State to take an interest in oral health throughout the month and play an active role in preventing and treating gum disease.

**DONE**, at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this thirty-first day of January 2013.

*Neil Abercrombie*

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

*Shan S. Tsutsui*

**SHAN S. TSUTSUI**  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i